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Urbane Rebel

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Urbane Rebel

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The wrapping of gifts is such a way that a two-dimensional plane may be folded into a three-dimensional figure, particularly the rectangular prism, acted as the main inspiration to create a women's winter cape. Flat, arbitrary shapes, including half circles and zigzags, were incorporated into the design to further the idea of geometry and to operate as functional details.

Draping was used to create the pattern of the cape. Folding two darts created room for a shoulder, and the experimenting with dart folding lead to the placement of the dart end. The intake of the dart determined the shoulder width as well as the flare of the cape. Two overlapping half circles were tested to develop an arm opening. To increase the density of the wool fabric and to prevent shrinkage during the ironing process, the wool fabric was soaked in water and machine dried beforehand.

The 100% wool's hand and warmth made it most suitable for outerwear. Blue lambskin was chosen as a contrasting material in both texture and color. The juxtaposition of the two materials allowed each to be emphasized—the natural imperfections and bold, cobalt color of the lambskin and the fine softness and deep, eggplant color of the wool. Black cowhide was chosen as a second contrasting material for its rough texture and accentual implications to the design.

Lightweight horsehair canvas was applied to the shell to add structure to



the cape. Then, the arm openings were inserted. A zigzag shape was designed and pieced at the center front and center back of the garment to add distinction to the design, and a patched pocket was attached on the left side facing. To add ease of movement to the lining, a 2" pleat was added at the center back and ½" dropped was added at the hem. The size six women's cape was completed in January of 2013.

